(c) The old buildings at Ross Island in Andaman and Nicobar were inspected by an officer of the Archaeological Survey of India in 1986 and were reported not to be in a good state of preservation. Being less than 100 years old, these could not be declared as monuments of national importance by the Central Government under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has been advised to take steps to preserve them with the Archaeological Survey of India offering such technical help and guidance as may be required.

Sshortage of Hostel accommodation in Delhi University

352. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of hostel accommodation in Delhi University;

(b) whether it is a fact that a proposal to construct some new hostels has been bogged down;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) by what date more accommodation is likely to be added in the University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the University, the demand for hostel accommodation is much greater than the number of seats available in the University Hostels. The University's plan to construct new hostels is held up at present for want of approval of their Master Plan. Though the Delhi Urban Arts Commission gave its conceptual approval to the Master Plan in January, 1988, it has desired that the Master Plan be submitted to them through Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The construction can be taken up only after the Master Plan has been approved by the MCD and the Delhi Urban Arts Commission. The Master Plan is under examination of the MCD.

Medical facilities to the expecting mothers in the rural areas

353. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of newborn babies in the country who weigh less than the required weight; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to provide better health facilities to expecting mothers, particularly in the remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Countrywide survey has not been done to assess the percentage of new born babies with low birth weight. However, according to rough estimate, about 30 per cent of babies born are having low birth weight *i.e.* below 2500 gms.

(b) To provide better health facilities to expectant mothers, especially in remote areas, Government is expanding health infrastructure, training traditional birth attendants, village health guides and para-medical workers. As on 30-9-87 provisionally 102160 sub-centres, 14409 primary health centres and 1293 community health centres have been established and 5.59 lakhs dais, 3.92 lakhs village health guides, 0.84 lakh multi purpose workers (female) and 0.18 lakh health assistant (female) trained. Apart from nutrition education to mothers the coverage under prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia among mothers and supplementary nutrition under ICDS scheme is gradually being increased.